

## Septuagenarian chaplain still going strong

By Alexandra Williams

284th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

Chaplain (Maj.) Charles Ehrhart is one of the few Catholic chaplains in the Army and probably one of the oldest soldiers on active duty, but he is still going strong.

Ehrhart, who transferred this month from Korea to the 284th Base Support Battalion, will celebrate his 70th birthday Sept. 23 and looks back over a 20-year career in the military.

"I joined the Army in 1983 at the age of 50. It was not my choice to wait that long. I was trying to join the Army for 23 years, but the bishop in my diocese in Rockville Center, Long Island, New York, kept saying no. One day I heard that they were taking priests up to the age of 50. This time when I asked my bishop for permission he said yes," Ehrhart said.

Ehrhart served in Nürnberg from 1985-1988. For the past nine years he has called Korea his home. "For seven years I was stationed in Yongsan and two years in Daegu," he said.

Ehrhart was scheduled to retire in September, but a Chaplain's Office retiree recall turned his expiration of time in service move into a permanent change of duty move from Korea to Germany. "There is a lack of Catholic priests in the Army. We should have 330, but currently there are about 95 Catholic priests serving in the Army," he said.

His extension in service is a positive development, he

said. "I never had any regrets joining the Army. I find it very interesting serving the military because there's a big difference in being a priest in the Army versus in a diocese. In the civilian sector you mostly have one cultural group in your parish while in the military you have a mixture of many cultures. There are Caucasians, Koreans, Chinese, African-Americans, Puerto Ricans and Eskimos. They all come to my service. No one says that they could be the chosen people of God as it says in the Scriptures. I really enjoy being a priest in

the Army," he said.

Being responsible for Catholic communities in both Friedberg and Giessen won't be a problem, said Ehrhart. In Korea he was responsible for five major camps. "I had to celebrate three masses on the weekend. One camp was about 25 miles away and another about 100 miles. I lived in one place and worked in four others. Now I am only responsible for two masses in two places. Sometimes it's a challenge for us, but most chaplains meet that challenge very, very well," he said.

By the way, physical fitness training is still mandatory at the age of 70. "I don't have to do PT as the other soldiers do, but in my medical record I had to state what I'll do to stay in shape. My choice is walking and swimming and maybe riding my bike."

Ehrhart said he is keeping his goals for his stay in the 284th BSB as simple as possible. "My goal is to be a pastor not just for the Catholics but to everyone who walks into my office."

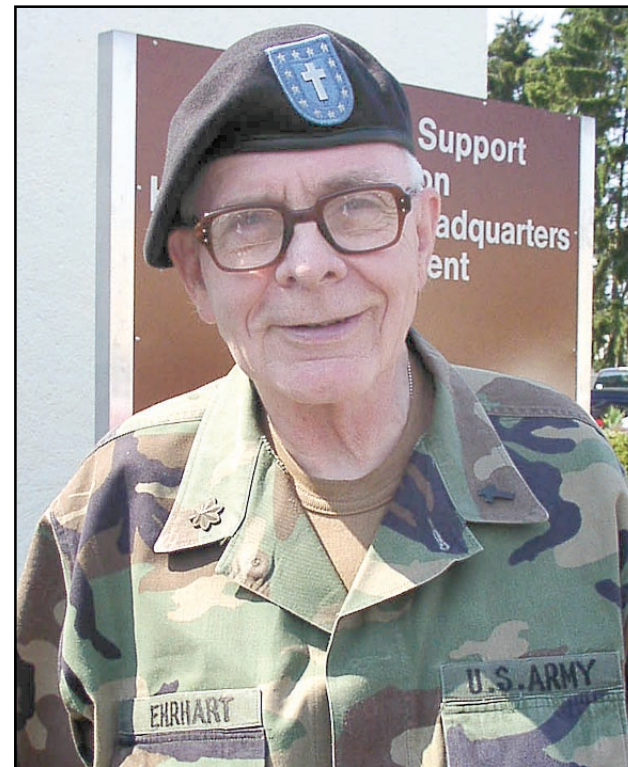


Photo by Alexandra Williams

Newly arrived Chaplain (Maj.) Charles Ehrhart looks forward to serving the 28th BSB community.

**"I was trying to join the Army for 23 years."**



Photo by Alexandra Williams

### But officer, what did I do?

Thomas Ruggere, one year old, gives investigator Dimitri Ramsey of the 284th Base Support Battalion Provost Marshal's Office a critical look as he takes his fingerprints for the free identification kit offered during the National Night Out held Aug. 8 at Giessen's Marshall Housing. Thomas' mother Danielle took advantage of the program and signed up to become a Safe Neighborhood Awareness Program volunteer for her housing area. "The identification kits are a great idea. They contain all the important information needed in case a child is missing," she said. The event also provided residents a chance to meet each other and to meet law enforcement staff.

## Third Civilian Fitness program registration

By Alexandra Williams

284th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

The third Civilian Fitness Program sign-up takes place Sept. 4-5 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Miller Hall fitness center in Giessen. "For the first time we are opening the program to eligible family members too," said Mark Smith, 284th Base Support Battalion fitness specialist.

The CFP is a Department of the Army approved program that encourages civilian employees to engage in regular exercise and other positive health habits three times a week during working hours.

"The goal of the program is to support participants in initiating and maintaining a healthy lifestyle and, with the support of the fitness center staff, developing their individual exercise and nutrition plans," Smith said.

### Benefits are many

The benefits of enrolling are manifold. Health benefits include a decrease of risk factors associated with debilitating diseases such as heart disease and stroke, nutrition education, stress management and developing a positive attitude.

"Working out on a regular basis helps in getting a better overall outlook on life situations and improves mental awareness," said Smith. Benefits include an increase in work performance, a lessened chance of illness and injury, and developing a positive lifestyle.

"We'll make individual fitness plans for each participant including health and fitness tips. While being part of the program partici-

pants also learn to set goals for themselves and to realize them," he said.

A large variety of fitness equipment will be available at the fitness centers in Giessen and Friedberg. Smith is currently developing and implementing group exercise schedules.

"We will offer at least two to three daytime aerobic sessions and a nutrition class. I am also planning on offering other group exercises maybe twice a week from 3-5 p.m. to assist the program," he said.

"We have learned from the previous CFPs that people prefer different exercising styles. Some people like to work out on their own while others need to exercise in a group."

Exercises schedules will be determined after enrollment. Individuals must fill out an enrollment package, undergo a fitness assessment and bring a supervisor's signed approval form to participate.

"Assessments will be done during the registration process and include medical considerations, a health history review, blood pressure measurement, body composition, cardio and respiratory endurance, fitness prescription and flexibility," Smith said.

Appointments for enrollment will be taken once packets are complete. Packets will be forwarded to all employees with the weekly Was Ist Los email. Family members can pick up the paperwork at their fitness center.

For information and assistance call Smith at mil 343-7520 or send email to [smithma@104asg.mwr.army.mil](mailto:smithma@104asg.mwr.army.mil).





## German-American friendship alive and well

### Wife's appeal in local paper prompts outpouring of support for single American soldiers

By Alexandra Williams  
284th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

Andrea Coleman's plea in a local German newspaper to fellow Germans to support single American soldiers deployed to Iraq by sending them care packages had such a tremendous turnout that now every week about 100 soldiers are getting a taste of German-American friendship in the mail.

The project started about six weeks ago, shortly after Coleman mailed her first food packages to her husband, Sgt. Maj. Ernest Coleman of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1-37th Armor.

"He called me one night and I asked him if he had received any of my boxes yet, and he said yes. He told me how sad it was to see the looks on the faces of single soldiers who never receive any mail. It's always the same ones receiving mail and it's always the same ones receiving nothing," she said.

Coleman said the saddening thought of so many depressed soldiers in the desert prompted her to find a way to change the situation. An active member of Friedberg's Protestant Women of the Chapel, Coleman contacted deployed soldiers who are members of her church to ask if they would support her effort to mail boxes to single soldiers.

"They all agreed to help me so I had points of contact downrange in 1-37th Armor, 2-37th Armor, 501st Forward Support Battalion, 1-36th Infantry and 1st Brigade. Next I called the *Wetterauer Zeitung*, the local newspaper, and explained to the editor what my husband told me. I figured that after World War II so many Germans benefited from the American CARE packages that maybe a few would like to twist it around and send German CARE packages to American soldiers. He promised to print my appeal."

### Overwhelming response

Within days of the article's publication about 150 packages containing candy, cookies and other snacks, as well as letters to "unknown soldiers" arrived at Coleman's apartment, and they continue to pour in. She mails boxes weekly to Iraq, and her helpers there distribute them to soldiers who aren't receiving mail or who are obviously depressed.

The response to her request has left Coleman overwhelmed. "I expected maybe a few packages from the Bad Nauheim and Friedberg area, but by now hundreds of packages have come from all over Germany and even from Austria," she said.

Contributors are mostly elderly people, said Coleman. Many read her appeal in the *Wetterauer Zeitung* during a stay in the Bad Nauheim health spa or on the newspaper's website.

"I open the boxes to make sure only permitted items are being sent and often I find



Photo by Alexandra Williams

Arden Thomas (left to right), Dawn Cothran and Andrea Coleman receive a helping hand from Bad Nauheim's mayor Bernd Rohde opening and checking care package for single soldiers in Iraq. The packages are donated by German citizens to support soldiers who do not receive mail. Rohde also donated a care box containing goodies.

unsealed letters. In those letters the senders are writing their personal stories, most of them from World War II that inspired them to support a young American soldier stationed in Iraq. It's very touching," Coleman said.

"An older lady wrote that as a child, right after the war, she got very sick and had to go to an orphanage in Ilbenheim for recovery. There she tasted chocolate for the very first time in her life. She was given the chocolate by American soldiers.

"A gentleman described how when he was a little boy in post-war Germany he and some other children decided to steal food from an American Army truck—but didn't see the soldier underneath the truck. Suddenly that soldier yelled at them 'Hands up.' The boy thought it was best to use the little English he knew and said 'I am glad to see you' because that was all he could think of.

"The soldier laughed and spoke to the kid, learning that his home had been bombed. Concerned about the boy's health the soldier told him to come back the next day to pick up some food. The boy got really sick overnight, so he asked his friends to pick up the box up for him. The American soldier kept his promise and handed the kids a box with food for the boy. When he recovered six weeks later he wanted to look up the American soldier to thank him, but he and his unit were long gone. The man said he said he has never forgotten

this," Coleman said.

"According to my points of contact the soldiers really like those boxes. A neighbor told me that she often sends extra packages downrange, but her husband said that many of his soldiers say they prefer a German package. It could be the different, foreign items German are sending, but I strongly believe it's the letters. Somebody they don't know makes the effort to share part of their life with them, makes the effort to mail something to them. Most of the time that unknown person had similar experiences as they do now. I truly believe that this means a lot to the soldiers," she said.

A couple of television stations picked up the story of Coleman's project, and number of boxes arriving daily has increased. She is grateful for the help she from eight neighbors to repack the boxes, fill out customs forms and bring them to the post office.

Dawn Cothran is one of Coleman's volunteer helpers. Her husband, Spc. Elmer Cothran is with Company C, 501st FSB.

"I just returned from a trip to the United States. I was surprised when I saw the turnout of that article. Every week there are about 100-150 packages. I've heard that some soldiers are even crying when they don't receive any mail. I was in the military myself and I know how it is. It doesn't matter how old you

are or what rank you have. Everybody wants somebody to love them, to care for them and to send them letters and food, especially in such an environment," she said.

### Boosting morale

"I really like the response from the Germans. My husband just transferred to HHC and he told me how upsetting it is for him to see his soldiers not receiving any mail," said Arden Thomas, whose husband Staff Sgt. Bryan Thomas is with the 501st FSB.

"But the project is also a morale booster for us wives. Whenever we are down we get together and pack boxes, and we read some of the letters to each other. Some make you cry, but it's just great to know that so many Germans care about our soldiers. My grandmother used to tell me stories of the closeness of the wives during the war, and this project reminds me of those stories," she said.

The packing also reminds them of their deployed husbands. "I miss my husband so much. I miss hearing his boots at night when he comes home," said Thomas.

"My kids, our dog and I love and miss him so much. I think about him 24/7 and I wish he'd come home now," said Cothran.

"We all miss Dad, but his daughter Gina really wants her daddy home now. I want him to know that I support him 100 percent," Coleman said. The single soldier project has helped relieve her own worries from time to time, she said.

"I am happy to see that my fellow German countrymen and women are not as cold and selfish as people say. I am overwhelmed with the care and friendship they show to young soldiers they don't even know."



# 284th BSB — Friedberg, Giessen

## Community spotlight

### Kudos to award winners

284th Base Support Battalion Directorate of Community Activity's Beverly Cleveland and Cody Waits are winners of Armed Forces Recreation Society awards. Cleveland, an employee at the Giessen Arts and Crafts framing shop won the AFRS Front Line award. Waits, a staff member of the Friedberg Fitness Center, won the Jon "Pat" Harding Practitioner award. Both are invited to the National Recreation & Park Association/Armed Forces Recreation Society conference to be held in St. Louis, Mo., in October to attend professional training and receive their awards in front of recreation practitioners from all branches of the armed forces.

### Sending support downrange

Anyone interested in supporting deployed soldiers can drop off either a letter, snacks or care packages addressed to "Unknown Soldier" at the 284th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office in Building 115, Room 200 on the Giessen Depot.

### Engineer Brigade under new command

Col. Don Young relinquished command of 1st Armored Division's Engineer Brigade July 19 to Col. Lou March in a ceremony at Saddam



Photo by Eric Steen

### Smile and say 'Aaah'

The staff of the Friedberg Dental Clinic recently organized a Dental Day on Ray Barracks to give children an insight into the importance of daily dental care. The children enjoyed games and pony rides, but also a dental check and dental care demonstrations.

Hussein's parade grounds, known for the crossed sabers at each end of the field, in Baghdad. A Video Tele Conference connec-

tion to Giessen let families and friends watch the ceremony.

### Exercise on Ray Barracks Aug. 23

The 284th Base Support Battalion will conduct a force protection exercise Aug. 23 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Ray Barracks in Friedberg. Residents and employees may experience short delays at gates and increased activity involving emergency vehicles and other occurrences throughout the day as a result of the exercise. For information call the 284th BSB Force Protection office at mil 343-7699.

### Commissary closed

The Bad Nauheim Commissary will be closed Aug. 28 for Organization Day. The store will reopen Aug. 29.

### Call in suggestions

The 284th Base Support Battalion has a suggestion line for internal comment. Employees of all organizations within the 284th BSB may call mil 343-1234 and leave their suggestion on how to improve the 284th BSB business operations. Calls will be taken by an answering machine. Leaving name and phone number is optional.

### The TEAM set to meet Thursdays

The newly established working group, "the TEAM," meets every other Thursday at the chaplain's conference room in Building 115 on the third floor. Members of the TEAM are current or potential community leaders interested in being involved in improving BSB operations. Anyone interested in joining this commander's tool working group to

continuously improve the community can call Jane Wingate at mil 343-7568 or Barbara Horne at mil 343-6010.

### ACAP briefings

The 284th Base Support Battalion Transition Office will sponsor a mandatory **Separation Briefing** Aug. 26 from 1-4 p.m. and a **Retirement Briefing** Sept. 3 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Army Career and Alumni Program office. The ACAP office conducts a **Veterans Affairs Benefits** briefing Sept. 3 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Spouses of transitioning soldiers are encouraged to participate. To schedule an appointment call Claire Sowinski at mil 343-9332.

### Thrift Shop hours

The Thrift Shop in Friedberg is open Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Butzbach Thrift Shop is open Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and every first Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Thrift Shop in Giessen is open Wednesday from noon to 5 p.m. Volunteers are sought for all three shops. Anyone interested in a position should see one of the store managers.

### Reserve component counseling available

Reserve Component Career Counseling service is available on the Giessen Depot. The RCCC office is in Building 4, Room 106, and is open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to noon and from 1-5 p.m. For information call Thomas Larry at mil 343-6506.

### Bulk trash pickup

The next bulk trash pickup in all housing areas in the 284th Base Support Battalion will take place Sept. 5.



Photo by Alexandra Williams

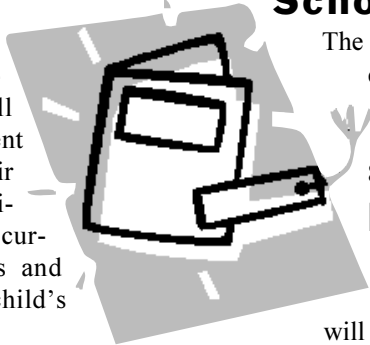
### Singing for the Book Wizard

Melissa Ramirez (left) and Jackie Cook sing for the Book Wizard at the Giessen Library during an award ceremony that concluded this year's Summer Reading Program. Throughout the summer the library hosted weekly craft activities and field trips for children age kindergarten to sixth grade. Participating children received awards and a bag of goodies on the last day.

## Students return to school Sept. 2

The first day of school in the 284th Base Support Battalion will be Sept. 2. Administrative staff encourages parents to register their children for the upcoming school year before the close of business Aug. 28 to ensure that children are placed with a classroom teacher for the opening day of school.

Children being registered on the first day of school cannot attend class that day. All schools will conduct an Open House to orient students and their parents to their new classrooms and school environments. Teachers will discuss curriculum, standards, expectations and homework policies. Call your child's school for details.



### Giessen Middle and High School

School starts Sept. 2 at 7:55 a.m. The date of the Open House is still to be determined. For information call mil 343-7333/7259.

### Giessen Elementary School

The first day of school for all students will run from 7:55-10:45 a.m. The school's Open House will take place that day from 1-2:30 p.m. A kindergarten orientation is scheduled for Sept. 2 from 8-9 a.m. The first full day of kindergarten will be Sept. 8. The first day of Sure Start will be Sept. 15. The

school has job openings for a supply technician and an education aide for kindergarten. Call mil 343-7248/6690 for details.

### Bad Nauheim Elementary School

The first day of school will run from 7:55-11 a.m. for children in first through sixth grade. The time of the Open House is still to be determined. Kindergarten begins Sept. 8. For details call civ (06032) 86800.

### Butzbach Elementary School

All students in kindergarten through sixth grade will attend school Sept. 2 from 7:55-10:45 a.m. The school's administrative staff asks that students not arrive before 7:45 a.m. as supervision of students begins at that time. The Open House begins that day at 1 p.m. All students and parents are invited to attend. Bus transportation will be provided for children who ride buses. The school offers a variety of volunteer opportunities, among them assisting teachers in and out of class, going on field trips, attending School Advisory Committee meetings, shelving books in the library, monitoring the lunchroom, Parent Teacher Association functions and more. Volunteer packets can be picked up and filled out at the school. For more information call the school at civ (06033) 74520.

### School bus registration

The Giessen School Bus Office is open for business. All returning students must re-register to ride the bus during the coming school year. The office is open Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1-2 p.m. To schedule an appointment for a different time call civ (06033) 60050.

### School lunch program

Free and reduced school meals are available to students whose families meet income and size eligibility requirements. Pick up applications at the Schools Liaison Office, Building 115, Room 109 on the Giessen Depot. To apply bring a completed application, a current copy of a Leave and Earning Statement and a copy of the spouse's LES, if applicable. For information and assistance call Tina Sandell, 284th BSB schools liaison officer, at mil 343-1770.

### PTA, SAC seek parent volunteers

The schools seek volunteers for the Parent Teacher Association. The PTA is a school spirit and nonprofit association that supports and speaks on behalf of the students, assists parents and organizes fund-raising events.

The School Advisory Committee is composed of an equal number of elected parents and teachers and advises school administrators and/or installation commanders on program which impact on the quality of education in the local schools. The SAC is a non-fund raising committee.

## Packing dos and don'ts

By Mary Lochhas  
Friedberg Legal Center

For many Army families summertime is moving time. That means packing bags and heading for a new duty station.

Despite the best precautions items may be lost or broken during the move. You are entitled to file claims for lost items, but you must show proof of the value and existence of the items. Before you have your household goods packed for shipment, here are some simple rules to observe:

### Before packing

Count all of your compact discs, videotapes, computer games and make a note on how many are prerecorded and how many are self-recorded. Write down all the titles in a notebook and get a third party to verify this is true. Take photographs of your collections. When the packers come into your home make sure the numbers are clearly written on the packer's inventory, and that if they are original recordings this is also written on the inventory. When added together CD collections may have a high value and, unfortunately, are often stolen during shipment.

### Purchase receipts

Don't throw away your clothing purchase receipts if you still own the clothes. File the receipts in a special file that you carry in your hand baggage. If you have no purchase receipts for your clothing, take photographs by laying the items on a bed and photographing them with a digital or Polaroid camera. You can always place one of your children in the picture to show the age of the photograph.

### Valuables

Don't leave your jewelry on display when packers come into your home. Make sure all your rings, watches and other valuables are packed out of sight in your hand baggage. People often forget and leave something of value behind in the bathroom. Always hand carry small, expensive items. If something is stolen it is often very difficult to prove your case when filing claims.

### Electrical items

Make sure all of electrical items are in good working condition before shipment. Show the packer they work properly. If they see they are working the packer cannot write down MCU, mechanical condition unknown, on the inventory. An MCU indication means the carrier will not take responsibility for damages that occur during shipment.

### Check shipment inventory list

Look at your last shipment inventory. Become acquainted with the terms and abbreviations the packer uses. These terms are listed near the top of the inventory. Damages that don't exist may be written down. You have a chance at packing to spot this, and if you disagree you can write down your comments in the remarks section at the bottom of the inventory.

Finally check the packing list/inventory very carefully before signing it. When you sign you are acknowledging the damages recorded by the packer. Make sure the packer gives you a clearly legible carbon copy of the inventory. For more information call the Legal Center at mil 324-3864/3865.

## Community spotlight

### Saturday child care

Super Saturday child care is offered Aug. 23 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Friedberg Child Development Center and Sept. 6 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Giessen CDC. Children must be age 11 or younger and CLEOS registered. For more information call the Friedberg CDC at civ (06031) 81-3137 or the Giessen CDC at civ (0641) 402-6200.

### Crafts classes

The Giessen Arts and Crafts shop will hold a **Cake Decorating class** for Aug. 27 from 4:30-6 p.m. The fee is \$15. A **Stamping class** takes place Sept. 2 from 4-5 p.m. The fee is \$15. At the **Funky Chicken class** Sept. 3 from 3-5 p.m. participants learn how to create a chicken or rooster window decoration. The fee is \$8. The Friedberg Arts and Crafts shop will hold a **Basic Crochet class** Aug. 27 at 5 p.m. The fee is \$7. A **Ceramics class** will take place Sept. 2. The fee is \$6. **Fun with Sculpey** will take place Sept. 4 from 6-7 p.m. The fee is \$10.

### Castle runs, softball

The 284th BSB Sports Office will conduct a 15-kilometer **Schiffenberg Castle Run** and a 3-kilometer **Family Fun Walk** Aug. 23. The registration fee for the run is \$15 including a T-shirt and \$10 without a shirt. The family fun walk is free to participants. The top three runners in each category will receive awards. The annual **Round the Clock softball tournament** will take place Aug. 29-31 on the Friedberg Back 40. Cost is \$175 per team without T-shirts.

### Volunteers sought

The 284th BSB Equal Opportunity Office and the Equal Employment Opportunity Office seek volunteers for the annual Hispanic American Heritage fiesta to be held Sept. 20 at Butzbach Elementary School. Call Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Balduf at civ (0641) 402-8521 or Jacqueline Young at civ (0641) 402-8422 for details.

### Foster families sought

The 284th Base Support Battalion's Army Community Service Emergency Placement Care Program seeks families to provide EPC, formerly known as foster care, for children at risk. Interested families must go through training. For details call Perry Tripp in Giessen at mil 343-7618 or Florentine King in Friedberg at mil 324-3709.

### Fitness instructors sought

The 284th BSB fitness centers in Giessen and Friedberg seek certified aerobics and group exercise instructors for day and evening classes. For details call mil 343-7201 in Giessen or mil 324-3155 in Friedberg.

### EFMP support group

ACS seeks community members interested in starting a support group for the Exceptional Family Member Program. The group will focus on issues important for families for an exceptional family member. It's a chance to learn the myths and facts about the EFMP. For more information call ACS Giessen at mil 343-7618.

# 414th BSB – Büdingen, Hanau

## Around the community ... Around the community

### Credit Union to open late

The Andrews Federal Credit Union will open at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 22 because of staff training.

### Awana club set

The Awana childrens club begins again on Sept. 16. It meets each Tuesday from 6-7:30 p.m. at Argonner Elementary School. Each week the children get together to play games, sing songs, memorize Scripture and have some good, clean fun. Awana is open to all children in kindergarten through sixth grade. It is a ministry of the 414th BSB Protestant Chapels. For more information call Vickie Horton at civ (06181) 5690670.

### Training Support Center photo hours

The Training Support Center on Campo Pond is open Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to noon and 1-4:30 p.m. Official Department of the Army photographs are taken Tuesday and Friday from 8-11 a.m. by appointment only. Passport photos can be made on a walk-in basis at no cost on Tuesday and Friday from 1-4 p.m. You must have a properly filled out DA form 3903 with block 14b signed by an official of the Passport Office on Pioneer Kaserne before any photos will be taken. Call mil 322-8020 for information and assistance.

### Installation Access Control System

The Installation Access Control System office in Building 24 on Pioneer Kaserne is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., closing for lunch from 1-2 p.m. Access roster requests will be processed in Building 24 and must be submitted 72 hours in advance. Call mil 322-9009 / 8773 / 8749, civ (06181) 88-9009 for details and assistance.

### Community Bank hours

The Community Bank at Hanau's Wolfgang Shopping Center will be open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and in Büdingen from 10 a.m. to noon on Aug. 26 to allow the staff to attend training. Automated teller machines will be available for service during the closing hours.

### Housing Division needs volunteer

The Housing Division is currently short on staff due to PCSing and annual leave. They need a vol-



### Memorial service for 1-1st Cav soldier

A 1-1st Cav soldier plants a cross in memory of Pvt. Michael J. Deutsch at Armstrong Barracks. A memorial service was held for Deutsch at the Büdingen Community Chapel on Armstrong Kaserne on Aug. 5. Deutsch was killed in Iraq July 31 when his armored personnel carrier hit a land mine on the road from Baghdad to the international airport. Deutsch, born April 30, 1982, graduated from high school in Dubuque, Iowa, before joining the Army in July 2002. He arrived in Germany in December 2002 and served as an 11C10 mortarman with the 1-1st's Comanche Troop. Büdingen Chapel was filled to overflowing with soldiers and family members from the Hanau community. Mayor Bernd Luft and deputy mayor Manfred Hix of Büdingen attended the service as did Col. George A. Latham II, 104th Area Support Group commander, Lt. Col. Amy L. Ehmann, 414th Base Support Battalion commander, along with members of the Büdingen city council. Deutsch is survived by his mother Ilean Deutsch of Dubuque, Iowa.

Photo by Dennis Johnson

unteer for about eight weeks, initially to work as an administrative assistant/receptionist within the division, working under the policy section. However the person would have administrative duties that support the division chief. Housing experience is not a must, but a plus. Knowledge of Microsoft Office and military administrative procedures is valuable. To volunteer call Tracy Grice, 414th BSB installation volunteer coordinator, at mil 322-9524, civ (06181) 88-9524 or email [tracy.grice@104asg.mwr.army.mil](mailto:tracy.grice@104asg.mwr.army.mil).

### Polish pottery bingo

The Hanau Community Spouses Club is hosting a Polish pottery bingo evening Wednesday Aug. 27 at the Community Activities Center on Fliegerhorst Kaserne. You must join HCSC to play. Sign up to join the club at 6 p.m. and bingo starts at 7 p.m. You'll get your first bingo card and hors d'oeuvres free.

### Hanau Thrift Shop hiring

The Hanau Community Spouses Club is hiring for two paid positions at the Hanau Thrift Shop, a cashier and a sales clerk. Volunteers are also welcome. If interested call civ (0175) 502-9129 or email [hscsthriftshop@yahoo.com](mailto:hscsthriftshop@yahoo.com).

### Softball and volleyball teams

Join your housing area softball or volleyball team by calling the

Pioneer Fitness Center at mil 322-8197. Give your name, phone and housing area and they will contact you for the first meeting.

### 'Sword in the Stone' to show under the stars

Join Army Community Service for a movie under the stars on Friday Aug. 22 at 8 p.m. on Pioneer Kaserne. The Disney movie "The Sword in the Stone" will be shown. Bring your lawn chairs, picnic baskets, blankets and the children for a night of family entertainment. For information call ACS at mil 322-8965 or civ (06181) 88-8965.

### FRG leader info

Get in touch with other Family Readiness Group leaders at the FRG leader information swap, Thursday Aug. 21 from 5-7 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 9 on Pioneer Kaserne. This month's topic will be conflict management and coping in crisis. Children are welcome. For more information call Katherine Lawlor at mil 322-8965 or civ (06181) 88-8965.

### PWOC fall kickoff set

The Protestant Women of the Chapel invite you to their fall kickoff program Sept. 4 at the Pioneer Chapel from 9-11:15 a.m. Come to learn about their new fall Bible studies. Watch care will be provided for children under 5.

### Dog day 5-K walk/run Aug. 30

The Pioneer Fitness Center will host a 5-K fun walk and run for community members and their two-legged friends on Aug. 30. Register at 9:30 a.m. and start walking at 10 a.m. Certificates will be given to all participants and doggy treats to the first five finishers. All dogs must bring a two-legged friend to walk. For information call the Pioneer Fitness Center at mil 322-8197.

### Women's Equality Day

The 104th Area Support Group Equal Opportunity Office needs volunteers to assist with the Women's Equality Day Fun Run/Walk Aug. 26. Volunteers will help with registration and refreshments along the route. Call Sgt. 1st Class Gayden at mil 322-8012/8021 or Valerie Evans at mil 322-1540.

### Fun 5-K run/walk

Join the third annual Women's Equality Day Fun 5-K run/walk on Aug. 26 at the Pioneer Fitness Center. It is free and open to all. Register from 7-7:45 a.m. The run starts at 8 a.m. The first 100 to register get a free T-shirt. Lt. Col. Amy Ehmann will be the guest speaker. For more information call Sgt. 1st Class Gayden at mil 322-8012/8021, email [donna.gayden@104asg.army.mil](mailto:donna.gayden@104asg.army.mil) or Valerie Evans at mil 322-1540, email [valerie.evans@104asg.army.mil](mailto:valerie.evans@104asg.army.mil).

[army.mil](http://army.mil).

### Hispanos Unidos Committee

Do you want to be involved in the Hanau Hispanos Unidos Committee? Join in planning the Hispanic Heritage Month festivities. The first meeting will be Aug. 28 at 6 p.m. in the Pioneer Fitness Center. For information contact Sgt. 1st Class Gayden at mil 322-8012, email [donna.gayden@104asg.army.mil](mailto:donna.gayden@104asg.army.mil) or Mr. Torres at mil 322-8197/8565, email [torrese@hanau.army.mil](mailto:torrese@hanau.army.mil).

### ACAP workshop

The Army Career and Alumni Program will conduct two-day pre-separation briefings and job assistance workshops in Building 11, Room 302, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Aug. 26-27, Sept. 9-10 and Sept. 23-24. Call mil 322-8356 or civ (06181) 88-8356 to sign up.

### CPR, first aid at Red Cross

The American Red Cross will conduct a two-day community Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and first aid class Aug. 23 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Aug. 24 from 1-4 p.m. Cost for the class is \$30, which includes textbooks. Classes fill up quickly so register early at the Red Cross office in Building 4, third floor, on Pioneer Kaserne. Call mil 322-8205/1760 for details.

### Building coordinators

There will be a mandatory briefing for all 414th Base Support Battalion building coordinators assigned to government owned or leased quarters Aug. 21 at 1 p.m. in the Evening Star Theater on Pioneer Kaserne. The briefing is in response to the large turnover in housing because of the Iraq deployment. The meeting will brief building coordinators on their duties and responsibilities. Units will release soldiers to attend. For details contact Pamela Allen at mil 322-8397/8982, email [allenp@bsbhsg.hanau.army.mil](mailto:allenp@bsbhsg.hanau.army.mil), or Sgt. 1st Class Wortmann at mil 322-8419, email [paul.wortman@bsb.hsg.hanau.army.mil](mailto:paul.wortman@bsb.hsg.hanau.army.mil).

### PWOC meets in Büdingen

Protestant Women of the Chapel in Büdingen will have its fall kickoff on Wednesday Aug. 27 at 9 a.m. in the chapel on Armstrong Kaserne. Join neighbors for fellowship and fun. PWOC is open to all women and child care is provided. For more information email Amy Taylor at [ain13@aol.com](mailto:ain13@aol.com) or call civ (0604) 2979119.

**Get the latest community news on the web at [www.hanau.army.mil](http://www.hanau.army.mil)**



# 414th BSB – Büdingen, Hanau



Photo by Dennis Johnson

The newly renamed Hanau Community Activities Center on Fliegerhorst Kaserne houses Club i, a CyberZone and a soon-to-open coffee bar.

## Hanau Community Activities Center changes

### Renamed club expands range of services on Fliegerhorst Kaserne

By Dennis Johnson  
414th Base Support Battalion  
Public Affairs Office

A new club name and new manager are about to change the International Club on Fliegerhorst Kaserne.

Mark Siple, his wife and their two-year-old son Zachary arrived in Germany in April from his previous assignment at Holloman Air Force Base, N.M. He was the catering manager at Frankfurt's Terrace Club and the food and beverage manager at the World Famous Topper Club in the heyday of both clubs. His assignment is to steer the International Club in the transition from being just a "club" to becoming a true Community Activities

Center.

"We want this to be a central meeting place for the whole community. We want the whole family in here," said Siple. "The CAC will be the place to come for a cup of coffee and to meet friends, entertain the kids, surf the Internet and to hold meetings and special events. It'll also be a one-stop shop for Outdoor Recreation events and trips, car rentals and Value Added Tax forms."

Siple expected the CAC to be ready to serve the entire community by the Aug. 23 grand opening date.

The most significant change will be a new coffee bar in place of the present dining room. A German coffee bar company was called into develop a modern coffee bar environment that will offer European-style coffee drinks — espresso, cappuccino, espresso macchiato, cafe lattes — as well as a good old American-style cup of java. Pastries and sandwiches will also be available.

The coffee bar will be a place where spouses can meet friends and hold small meetings during the day, said Siple. The CyberZone, now located in the video game and billiard room, will move into the coffee bar to enhance its Internet cafe feel. Patrons will be able to surf while they slurp. Parents can

also chat person to person while their children surf the Internet or play computer games.

Soldiers can ease in after work for a cold soft drink or beer and unwind in a "Friends" style coffee bar atmosphere without the cliché trappings, said Siple. The coffee shop will close at 8 p.m., but those who still want a drink can walk down the hall to Club i where musical entertainment Thursday through Saturday night and a monthly Comedy after Dark show will continue.

"When people think of the International Club, many have a mental picture of a smoky night club. We're going to be much more than that," said Siple, noting that Club i will retain its rocking nightclub atmosphere. "We don't want to change that; it holds its own. But we've got to be consistent with our customers: country and western on Saturdays, karaoke on Fridays and top-40 variety on Thursdays. We'd also like to bring in some local bands. Every base usually has a group of soldiers who form a band, and we'd like to see them in here."

Lunch specials continue to be available at the CAC weekdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Three new offices are under construction in the lobby. One will house an Outdoor Recreation ticket and tour office, where families can find out what trips are going where. Customers can also rent cars and pick them up at the CAC. Outdoor Recreation equipment rental will continue to be handled at the facility on Old Argonner Kaserne.

A second office in the CAC lobby now houses the Tax Relief Office where VAT forms, which can be used to save the 16 percent VAT on items purchased on the German economy. The office is open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1-4 p.m.

The third office space will become an arts and crafts shop featur-

ing the work of local artisans.

The CAC's catering service will continue. No other facility in the 414th BSB matches it for its large, modern conference and meeting rooms, said Siple. Full buffets or light snacks and drinks can be served to groups of any size, as can sit down meals for events such as weddings, promotions, and hail and farewells. Catering service can be arranged for events anywhere in the 414th BSB.

A CAC annex in Building 1351 makes two additional rooms available for meetings and small parties. The use of the rooms is free and the CAC can provide catering for events held there. "The Spouses Club and the Family Readiness Groups have already made good

use of these rooms," said Siple. Contact the CAC to reserve these rooms.

Siple said he wants to expand the CAC's role as a information hub where community members can stop by anytime to see what's going on. The gaming room will remain the same, full of the latest electronic gaming machines, he said.

Upcoming events at the CAC include a free show by the all-girl band California Girls Aug. 19 at 8 p.m. The show features Beach Boy-style songs suitable for the whole family. By contrast a Comedy after Dark show scheduled for Aug. 23 at 10 p.m. is for adults only.

Come out to see all that the new Community Activities Center has to offer.



Mark Siple

### Connection Fair events set to go

The Hanau Community Activities Center will open to the public during the 414th BSB Connection Fair to be held on Fliegerhorst Kaserne Aug. 23 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Register for community activities, learn about Youth Services sports and children's activities, meet the Boy Scouts, wander through a crafter's fair and flea market, and view static displays.

A Comedy after Dark show will be held at Club i beginning at 10 p.m.

#### Events schedule

- 10:30 a.m. — Canine demonstration
- 11:00 a.m. — Goju ryu karate
- 11:20 a.m. — Broadway revue
- Noon — Yoga
- 12:20 p.m. — Aerobics
- 12:40 p.m. — Folk dancing
- 12:40 p.m. — Fire department rescue
- 1:00 p.m. — Tae kwon do



# 414th BSB – Büdingen, Hanau

## Cool off safely at approved area pools



Photos by Dennis Johnson

The swimming pool in nearby Alzenau is just one of many authorized area swimming pools.

### Baby, it's hot outside

During the dog days of summer local swimming pools and lakes are the perfect places to cool down. Here are a few pools approved by the 414th Base Support Battalion Safety Office. Note that most offer reduced entry fees for those who arrive in the late afternoon or early evening. Call ahead for details.

#### Heinrich Fischer Bad in Hanau on Eugen-Kaiser-Strasse

This is an outdoor swimming complex with an Olympic-size pool, swimming areas for children and babies, a big water slide, a children's slide and a diving tower. There's a playground for children and barbecues available for use. To get to the Heinrich Fischer Bad follow Lamboystrasse toward the center of Hanau, but bear right into Eugen-Kaiser-Strasse after crossing the bridge. The complex is less than 500 meters farther on the right side. Parking is a problem while a garage is under construction, so plan ahead. Entrance fees are €3 for adults, €1.50 for children. The pool is open till 9 p.m. Call civ

(06181) 295 970 for information.

#### Lindenaubad in Hanau-Grossauheim

This complex offers indoor and outdoor pools connected by a tunnel and a variety of pools for adults and children. It can be reached by traveling on B8, Neuwirtshäuser Strasse and then going into Lindenau. It's open Monday from noon to 2:30 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday from 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Entrance fees are €3 for adults and €1.50 for children. Call civ (06181) 54825 for information.

#### Maintalbad in Maintal-Doernigheim

The Maintalbad offers indoor and outdoor pools and a special baby pool with a baby slide and toys for children. Reach the pool by traveling on A66 toward Frankfurt. Exit at Maintal Hochstadt-Doernigheim, take a right and at the next traffic light make a right turn again which leads to the parking lot. The pool is open Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Thursday from 8 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., Friday from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 8 a.m. to noon. It is closed on Mondays. Entrance fees are €3.50 for adults and €1.75 for children age six and up. Call civ (06181) 9458 680 for information.

#### Freischwimmbad Langenselbold

The outdoor pool in Langenselbold was renovated in 1999. There are pools for adults and children, water slides and fountains. To reach the pool drive on A66 toward Fulda. Take the Langenselbold exit and turn into Kinzigstrasse, heading toward the Stadtmitte. At the second traffic light (a major

intersection) turn left into Gelnhäuser Strasse and turn left again into Bahnhofstrasse, which leads to Schwimmbadstrasse. The pool is open Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. In September it will open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Entrance fees are €3 for adults and €1.50 for children over 6.

#### Freibad in Büdingen

This is an outdoor pool with a diving tower, a 225-foot water slide, a baby pool, playground, volleyball field and barbecues. To get there follow the Hauptstrasse through the underpass toward the town of Rinderbügen, just on the edge of Büdingen. Opening hours are daily from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. The entrance fee is €2.50 for adults and €1.50 for children.

For a complete list of authorized swimming pools around the 414th BSB go to [www.hanau.army.mil](http://www.hanau.army.mil) and click on "Local swimming pools."

### Swim safety dos and don'ts

The 414th Base Support Battalion Safety Office reminds all community members to make safety their top priority while enjoying local pools. To stay safe while swimming, here are a few safe swimming tips:

#### Do

- Check the water depth before jumping or diving — there may be submerged items just under the surface.
- Swim only where there is a lifeguard on duty.
- Learn to swim even if you never intend to use it; it may save your life.
- Wait at least one hour after eating to go into the water.
- Leave outdoor pools during thunderstorms.
- Closely supervise all children.

#### Don't

- Never swim alone and never let children near the water unattended.
  - Don't swim when tired or feeling sick.
  - Don't swim in cold water, it drains the body of heat and can lead to cramps and possibly drowning.
  - Never call for help as a joke.
  - Never swim at night.
  - If someone is in distress swim out to help him or her only if absolutely necessary. Panicking swimmers can endanger would-be rescuers who are not trained in lifesaving.
- Remember: Never go if you can row, never row if you can throw, and never throw if you can reach.

#### Lakes

All other bodies of water such as lakes, rivers, ponds are off limits to U.S. Army Europe personnel.

#### Wading pools

The use of swimming pools in housing areas is not allowed because full time adult supervision is not possible and the pools are breeding grounds for mosquitoes. Small, shallow wading pools are permitted with the written approval of the BSB commander. A responsible adult must supervise children at all times, and the pool must be emptied and stored after each use. Contact the Safety Office with questions about swimming policy and safety at mil 322-1670.

### Authorized area swimming pools

The 414th Base Support Battalion has a policy that establishes authorized swimming pools around Hanau and the Rhein-Main area. The swimming pools listed below are authorized for soldiers, civilians and family members to visit for recreational water sports.

Alzenau	Outdoor
Bad Orb	Outdoor
Birstein	Outdoor
Büdingen	Indoor/outdoor
Bischofsheim	Indoor/outdoor
Bruchköbel	Indoor/outdoor
Dörnigheim	Indoor
Erlensee	Indoor
Freigericht/Sornborn	Indoor
Gelnhausen	Indoor/outdoor
Gelnhausen/Roth	Indoor/outdoor
Grossauheim	Indoor/outdoor
Grosskrotzenburg	Indoor
Hanau	Indoor/outdoor
Langenselbold	Outdoor
Mühlheim am Main	Indoor
Nidderau-Windecken	Indoor/outdoor
Wächtersbach	Outdoor

## Power outages around Hanau

Caserns in the Hanau community will experience power outages over the next two weeks as listed below.

**Grossauheim Kaserne** (includes Rod and Gun Club) — Aug. 25, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Underwood Kaserne** — Aug. 25, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Hutier Kaserne** — Aug. 26, 8 a.m. to noon.

**Cardwell Housing** (includes fitness center and club facility) — Aug. 26, 8 a.m. to noon.

**Yorkhof Kaserne** — Aug. 26, 8 a.m. to noon. Note that all servers will be turned off at 7 a.m. and restarted at 12:30 p.m. There will be no email service for users in Hanau or Giessen.

**New Argonner Kaserne** (includes Campo Pond) — Sept. 1, 8 a.m. to noon.

**Hanau High School and Middle School** — Sept. 1, 8 a.m. to noon.

**Pioneer Kaserne** (includes housing area) — Sept. 1, 1-4 p.m.

**Sportsfield Housing** (includes Sportsfield Elementary School) — Sept. 1, 1-4 p.m.

**Wolfgang Kaserne** — Sept. 2, 8 a.m. to noon.

**Fliegerhorst Kaserne** (does not include family housing) — Sept. 3, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Fliegerhorst Family Housing** — Sept. 4, 8 a.m. to noon.

**Fliegerhorst NATO V and tank farm** — Sept. 4, 8 a.m. to noon.

For information call Mr. Beste at mil 322-9777.